Lesson 1: KINGDOM OF GUATEMALA (Modern day Central America)

-Captaincy General: Captaincies general were established districts that were under serious pressures from foreign invasion or Indian attack. They were under the jurisdiction of a Captain General.
  -The Region Included modern day: Chiapas, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica

- The Capital was Santiago de los Caballeros de Guatemala (Modern day Antigua Guatemala): the word Guatemala originated from Quauhtemallan which is a Kaqchikel Maya word for “Forested land/area”.
  -the Capital was the seat of civil and ecclesiastical authority
  -Mostly Spaniards and American born Spaniards lived in the city (they made up 6% of the population)

-Spanish regulations of the Economy **[how the Spanish controlled the CA economy]**
  - Spain’s policies aimed to develop wealth for them: they did not encourage competition
  -The colonies provided raw materials but were not permitted to develop the technology to create finished products; they had import from Spain.
  -Crown moved to outlaw or impose heavy taxation on industries

-Impoverishment of CA**** (the previous heading and this one explain how the Spanish controlled the economy)
  -All trade was through Spain they created monopolies
  -Colonies were prohibited to trade with each other
  -Spain gave permission to create factories such as shoes, soap, glasses but discouraged them
  -Central Americans had to respond to the policies by doing fraud, tax evasion, and contraband

-Industrial Opportunities in Central America
  -Mines were discovered in Honduras but Spain did not provide capital in the industry
  -Spain monopolized mercury which was used to smelt ore to control miners.
  - Spain fostered a Single-crop dependency that they monopolized and depended on the demand in Europe
  -CACAO: the chocolate drink became popular in the 1600s and Spain control its trade for Central America. However, by the end of the 1600s plants became infested with insects and labor shortages existed. These conditions caused the decline of the industry.
  - Indigo: The shrub was used to create blue dye and required less labor. Indigo exportation boomed in the late 1600s and declined in the 1800s because of a locust plague.
Lesson 2: Central American Independence 1700-1823

Bourbon reforms in the 1700s

1. Sent well-trained and well-paid tax collectors and administrators
2. Opened new ports and roads and allowed inter-colony trade
3. Invested in Honduran mines
4. Invested in transisthmian roads
5. Invested in protecting the colony from native attacks, smugglers and foreign poachers
6. Strengthened and created new government monopolies

- Backlash (impact of reforms)
  - Bourbon efficiency meant that that local (creole) government officials were displaced (fired)
  - The strict bureaucracy stopped corruption and smuggling
  - It negatively affected Maya villages because strict tax collectors harassed Maya caciques

- Maya reaction (Impact on the Maya people)
  - Spanish taxed cofradia (church funds)
  - Spanish pressured to remove Maya of their land
  - Spanish tried to put the maya into labor fostered confrontations with the Maya
  - Tribute payments and religious meddling provoked the Maya

- Creoles UPSET!
  - Because of being displaced the creoles became proud of their American identity (starting to defy Spanish loyalty)
  - During the Napoleonic wars the Spanish allowed trade with the British, BOSTON and PHILADELPHIA but after the wars ended in the 1800s it prohibited trading again, enraging CA.
  - The Spanish did ‘Patriotic loans’ to fund their war efforts, this enraged CA
  - in 1810 the indigo market collapsed and merchants foreclosed farmers- UPSETTING CREOLES

- Close to Independence (TURMOIL IN SPAIN)
  - Napoleon invaded Spain in 1808 and forced Ferdinand VII (king) to abdicate his throne.
  - In a show of support, when the king was deposed Central Americans swore allegiance to the junta (colonial government that represented Ferdinand).
  - Ferdinand was restored in 1814 but the liberals (supported independence) and conservatives (supported the crown) had divided opinions regarding the kingdom.

- Central American Independence
  - Mexico and South America wars raged 1808-1821 which distracted the Spanish crown from rebellions in Central America
- In Central America rebellions flared but they lacked support because of the distance between the provinces.

- Despite the challenges Central Americans obtained independence on September 15th 1821

- Central America was annexed to Mexico under the emperor AGUSTIN ITURBIDE

- In 1821 Mexican troops appeared at the border of the provinces to demand Central American annexation to the Mexican Empire. CA DID NOT RESIST because they did NOT HAVE RESOURCES!

- Some of the BENEFITS of Mexican annexation included: Abolishment of slavery, abolishment of tribute, and allowed free trade.

- CA Reaction to Annexation

  - Liberals opposed annexation

  - Conservatives favoured annexation because they wanted to maintain privileges that they had under Spanish control, believed that Mexican authorities would stop confrontations between provinces, believed that Mexican wealth would strengthen the Central American economy

- Annexation failure

  - Mexicans did not have economic power to control the area

  - Mexicans did not have military power to control the area

  - Iturbide was deposed and Central American congress convened to declare independence on July 1st 1823

Lesson 3: Federation of Central America

- United Provinces of Central America

  - The Central American congress declared Central America as a sovereign country under the banner “God, Unity, and Liberty”. The provinces united because they were too small and economically weak to survive alone.

- Issues/problems with federation

  - The federation had problems because provinces distrusted Guatemala City and attempted to move the capital to San Salvador.

  - The differences in population meant that Guatemala (405 of the population) had more say in political and economic affairs. Guatemala maintain more political representation in congress.

  - Antagonism between elite cities and neighbouring townships (the middle class and elites clashed)

  - Each province taxed its industries but had to give portions to the federation but most provinces did not comply
-Congress controlled elections, they disqualified the first elected president and placed Manuel Arce as president.

-KNOW THE LOCATION OF EACH PROVINCE AND LOS ALTOS

Lesson 4: The end of the Federation

-UPHEAVALS OF 1837 to 1840

- Causes: 1. liberals financed their army and policies by forced loans from the church and aristocrats; 2. they implemented new taxes that created political dissatisfaction and natives saw it as a demand for tribute; 3. Cholera outbreaks affected Guatemala and when Mariano Galvez sent medicine to villages, priests told natives and peasants that the government poisoned the wells; 4. the priests encouraged peasants to revolt throughout CA following the theme ‘Long live religion’.

-Conservative leadership: Rafael Carrera was encouraged by parish priests to lead an attack to control Guatemala City. He was successful and forced Mariano Galvez to resign. His actions inspired other peasants to rise against the government. In response the government sacked and burnt villages and directly attacked Carrera’s family. Despite the conservatives seeking Carrera’s support to gain power, Carrera fought against both liberal and conservative elites.

-ANARCHY IN CENTRAL AMERICA 1837 to 1840

- Wars aged in each province (except Costa Rica) and both liberal and conservatives looked for Francisco Morazan to appease the situation. The conditions got too bad and in 1838 the Central American congress recognized each independent state in CA., disintegrating the federation.